

SINGAPORE BASEBALL

Englishman Gives His Views of National Sport.

AMERICAN SAILORS PLAY BALL

First Inning Given in Detail—Description of Players in Their Positions and Theory of Game—Result and Summaries of the Fast Contest Between Jackies.

An Englishman's view of our national pastime is given in an article from a paper published in Singapore, India. It describes a game between the sailors of two American battle ships, and to the correspondent it appeared as follows:

"Nobody seemed to know anything about it," he writes, "when the game first started, but by the time the last man had been put out there was a wonderful lot of expert knowledge being offered cheap. Personally, I learned that the four corners of the diamond-shaped field were called 'bases' and that there was a person called the 'pitcher' and another the 'striker,' and another the 'catcher,' but all I know yet of the theory of the game is that one side has got to 'out' the other by (1) maiming them, (2) mercifully catching them, or (3) knocking them down and lying on them. If I am wrong, will some one please correct me?"

"In the beginning the pitcher took his stand in the center of the diamond—the safest place—while the umpire, our friend P. A. G. Grimes, took refuge behind him. The striker—who might more properly be called the struck—stood in the corner facing him, armed with a big stick. Behind the striker was the catcher, who put his head in a bird cage and hung a bed quilt over his chest. The fielders were placed, one on each base, and everybody was on his left hand a huge glove, which seemed at first to be meant for the castigation of anybody who survived the attentions of the pitcher, but which, I learned later, was very useful for catching.

"Then the game began. The pitcher coddled the ball for a moment, muttered a prayer over it, whirled round, twisted his arms like a contortionist, cocked his leg up and, when he thought he had thoroughly deceived the other man, threw the ball at him with all his might. Fortunately the striker saw it coming and dodged very skillfully. The catcher, as his name implies, caught it and threw it back to the pitcher, meanwhile watching to see that the victim didn't run away.

"Yelled 'Ball One.' The pitcher tried a second shot and the field yelled, 'Ball one!' (It is a 'ball,' I believe, if the pitcher throws it at the other man's legs or his face; he must try to hit him on the body.)

"Pitch a nice one, Bluebell!" screamed the field, and the pitcher did; nearly hit him, in fact.

"But the next ball was too much for the striker's patience. He threw his club at it and in the resulting confusion escaped. He didn't get far, however, for the first base stopped him.

"The next striker was a man of spirit. He showed great contempt for the balls, and instead of evading he swiped angrily with his club. Perhaps the spectators would have been happier if he had evaded them. Anyway, the first ball tipped off his club and played havoc with the bare legs of a group of Malay youngsters who were sitting on front of the pavilion. They retreated in good order into the basement of the clubhouse and watched the remainder of the game from behind the grill. Lucky for them, they did. The second ball came the same way and endangered the life of two esteemed residents. They rose hurriedly and shifted their chairs. They were too cute, however, to sit down again; they wisely held their chairs in their hands and prepared to bolt again. The third ball landed on the roof of the pavilion and staid there.

"Describes Pitcher's Antics. "That, thought I, was more than the pitcher bargained for. But, no! He had quite a stock of ammunition, and, selecting another ball, he coddled it as usual, swung his arms, pranced, cocked his left leg, and hurled it. This time the striker got it fair and square, and while the fielders were looking for it on the Esplanade he made good his escape. The prisoner on the first base also bolted, but he ran too far, for just as he had almost got back among his shipmates at the striking station a big fellow on the other side knocked him down, sat on him, and hit him twice in the head with the ball. He left 'no possible shadow of doubt' about it; the man was out.

"A third striker went in, but he, if I



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BECKERS
LONDON

PRESENTED TO MOUNT RAINIER'S MAYOR.



Mayor Robert E. Joyce, of Mount Rainier, was honored by the members of the city council and the citizens generally of Mount Rainier last night when he was presented with a magnificent punch bowl, eighteen inches high and twenty-seven inches in diameter, which was made expressly for the citizens of Mount Rainier by the Dulin & Martin Company of this city.

The presentation took place in Potts Hall, during a meeting of the mayor and council, and in the presence of a large number of prominent residents of the town.

When Clerk Maurice E. Stallings in making the presentation said: "The citizens of Mount Rainier take pleasure in presenting you, Mr. Mayor, with this bowl as a token of their appreciation of your work as mayor of this town, and also to extend to you hearty Christmas greetings and good wishes for the coming year. They wish me to tell you that they take this way of showing their appreciation of the interest you have shown in the community and the maintenance of law and order."

When Mayor Joyce arose in response to numerous calls for a speech, he was greeted with continued applause.

He remembered the occasion, and was thus saved all the castigation that fell to the others. At the same time the previous striker, who was imprisoned about the second base, was grossly maltreated and was unable to run any farther.

"That finished the inning, for as soon as three strikers are put hors de combat, I gathered, it was the turn of the other side. The misused strikers, it must be said, got some of their own back.

"As to the rest of the game I don't remember much. I know they played nine innings each side, put a ball occasionally among the spectators and the stengals on the club veranda, and did their best to murder one another.

"Result: U. S. S. Wheeling, 8 runs and 2 casualties; U. S. S. Petrel, no runs and no casualties; spectators shattered nerves; Cricket Club, expense of returning the padang."

BASEBALL STOCK

GOOD SECURITY

Dreyfuss Couldn't Borrow on Property Ten Years Ago.

Nothing that could be said can better demonstrate the remarkable growth of baseball during the last ten years than the statement recently made by President Brannan Dreyfuss, of the Pittsburgh club, showing the changed conditions in the financial end of the game in that short period. Dreyfuss' experience is that ten years ago he could not borrow a cent on baseball stock, and that last year when he needed ready money for the completion of Forbes Field, in Pittsburgh, a banking house accepted the stock of the Pittsburgh club as security at its par value.

"In 1891 I opened negotiations," said Dreyfuss, "to buy out Kerr and Auten, part owners of the Pittsburgh club, and after much preliminary sparring they gave me an option on their stock at \$125 a share.

"I made known to the bank officials that I wanted to borrow \$50,000. 'What security have you got?' was the question asked me. I informed them that I had that amount of stock in the Pittsburgh club that I was willing to put up as collateral. 'Sorry,' they replied, 'but baseball stock has no standing whatever in banking circles, and we could not even accept the stock as part security.' So I had to borrow the money elsewhere in order to buy the club.

"Last summer, just ten years later, I found it necessary to raise \$50,000 in a hurry in the transaction that has given us the finest ball park in the country. I went to two banks to see about getting the money, asking a loan of \$125,000 in each.

"That collateral have you? I again asked. 'Stock in the Pittsburgh club,' I replied. 'That's good enough,' said the officials; 'we'll accept it at its par value, and I got the coin without delay.'

KAUFMAN TO CHALLENGE.

Wants to Meet Jack Johnson for the Championship.

San Francisco, Dec. 22.—With the concurrence of Billy Delaney, the veteran trainer, Al Kaufman has decided to issue a challenge at once to Jack Johnson for a match for the heavy-weight championship of the world. The Californian will remain here until after the holidays, when he will go on the road again. The postponing of the Ross-Barry match in New Orleans has overthrown Kaufman's plans to meet the winner.

"I have talked the matter over with Billy Delaney this week," said Kaufman, "and he agrees it is high time to issue a challenge to Johnson. I don't claim to be the hope of the white race, but I do think I am the one who is legitimately entitled to challenge. I am much heavier in weight, and show a lot more speed than the last time I met Johnson. My boxing has improved. If Johnson wants to wait about a year, then I will be ready for him."

He knew.

From the Chicago Post. "You are late," she says, with a woman's sweet habit of saying the unnecessary.

"Yes," he acknowledges. "Several things made me late. In the first place, I met Jones and Bingham as I was rushing to the train, and in the second place I felt that I had to set 'em up to them because of old college days, and—"

"You needn't bother to tell me what happened in the third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, and on up to the twentieth place," she remarks, icily.

He thanked the people of Mount Rainier for their good wishes, and he said he was gratified if any modest effort on his part had resulted in good to the town and proposed to continue to do whatever he could for the advancement of the community.

Corporation Counsel Benjamin F. L. Heron congratulated Mayor Joyce, and predicted his re-election next spring. John J. Moran and other prominent citizens expressed similar sentiments.

Mayor Joyce was elected mayor of Mount Rainier last May, the town being incorporated under an act of the Maryland legislature. He had the foresight to surround himself with competent town officials, notable among them being Maurice E. Stallings, town clerk, who relieves the mayor of much of the detail work.

Mayor Joyce was appointed justice of the peace for Chillum district by Gov. Crothers, and in the administration of this office has shown much judicial and executive ability. The mayor is understood to be ambitious to represent Prince George County in the Maryland legislature, and his friends declare that if he decides to make the run in the primaries next summer the candidate who beats him will realize that he won a hard fought honor.

OLD-TIME PLAYER

DIES FORGOTTEN

Baseball Men of the Eighties Are All but Gone.

O'BRIEN'S CASE THE SADDEST

Elks Care for the Famous Catcher, Who Passes Away Praising the National Game—Crack Battery of the Athletics in 1883 Taken in by Charitable Institutions.

From the Philadelphia Telegraph.

That the old-time baseball player's life was a merry one is generally believed, but it was not a short one, as is proven by the history of the men who helped the Athletics to win the American Association championship in 1883. Death has cut into the ranks of these veterans only six times during the twenty-seven years that have passed since "Billy" Sharsig and his penitent winners returned from the West after one of the most sensational games in the history of the national game.

Those who have passed away are O'Brien, Rowan, Matthews, Moynahan, Birchall, and Crowley.

Strangely enough, both "Bobby" Matthews and Byrne, who formed the famous battery in 1883 until "Jumping Jack" Jones came along and took some of the laurels from "Bobby," died in a hospital after having been given assistance by charitable friends.

O'Brien's case was by far the sadder of the two. His right name was Byrne, and almost through an accident his plight became known in time to prolong his life and to give him much needed medical attention. To the present day generation of fans, O'Brien was but a fleeting memory, but to the old-timer he was as famous as a Thomas, a Dooin, or a Kling.

After leaving the diamond O'Brien dropped out of the public eye and he engaged in the business of a teamster for the Dr. Jayne estate.

Cared for by Elks. Later he became the steward for the Amity Gun Club, which has a clubhouse on the old Deering farm in the Neck, where the famous murders occurred many years ago. O'Brien was ill and in distress, and his condition became known to James McNally, a prominent member of the Elks, of which organization the famous old player also belonged. Mr. McNally had O'Brien taken to the Mount Sinai Hospital on April 22 last. He was suffering from a complication of diseases, including dropsy, Bright's disease, and cirrhosis of the liver. The physicians soon saw that the old player did not have even a fighting chance for life, but the final months of his life were made as comfortable as possible through the kindness of the Elks. At times, though, O'Brien suffered terrible agony.

O'Brien never lost his love for the national game. During the past summer and early fall no fan in the city was more keenly interested in the work of Connie Mack's Athletics than he was. The newspapers were supplied him and he eagerly read every word that was printed about the White Elephants. Frequently he expressed the wish that he could go to the city hall and talk over old times with his former team mate, Len Knight.

During his last illness O'Brien was reconciled to his wife, from whom he had been separated for years.

When one pauses to consider the pathetic end of the former star, almost alone and forgotten by the masses who lionized him less than thirty years ago, what a lesson his death should be to the men whose homecoming from Chicago only a few weeks ago was awaited by thousands of fans, who stormed Broad Street Station just to get a peep at one of the new champions.

Baseball goes on, but the men who made the game are forgotten in the desire to do homage to the new kings of the diamond.

You Can Give to Some One. A little red seal on the wrapper of your Christmas gift makes it a double gift—a gift to your friend and to every one afflicted with tuberculosis.

Not Very Expensive. The suggestion from the woman's page that handkerchiefs make a dainty gift will also win the unqualified approval of father.

CRUISE IS PLANNED

TO GERMAN PORTS

Effort Made to Check Criticism of Recent Events.

VISIT TO KIEL NEXT SUMMER

Fleet Which Recently Called at British and French Ports Lacked Time to Extend Itinerary, So Plans Are Made for Another Cruise After the Spring Maneuvers.

It is likely that the Atlantic battle-ship fleet, now abroad, will make a cruise to German ports next summer. A tentative decision for such a cruise has been reached by the Navy Department. The detailed itinerary has not been worked out. It is most likely, however, that the battle ships will visit Kiel, and probably one or two other German ports.

On the present foreign cruise, the battle ships of the fleet visited only British and French ports on the English Channel. The fact that no visit to ports of Germany was included in their itinerary has caused some unfavorable criticism of the policy of the government by German newspapers.

This unfriendly criticism was accentuated by the recent speech of Commander William S. Sims, U. S. N., commanding officer of the battle ship Minnesota, who was quoted as saying in a speech in London, on December 2 last, that Great Britain would probably receive assistance from the United States in case of a foreign war. This alleged statement was telegraphed to Germany, and, together with the failure of the fleet to visit German ports, has been the subject of much criticism in the German press.

Itinerary Hastily Arranged.

It was explained at the Navy Department yesterday that the present itinerary was arranged hurriedly after the outbreak of cholera in ports in the Mediterranean Sea, where it was originally intended to send the fleet. When the disease appeared at the principal ports of Southern Europe, Surg. Gen. Charles F. Stokes, Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, advised against sending the battle ships to the Mediterranean. The itinerary was then revised by Rear Admiral Richard Wainwright, aid for operations.

The officials of the Navy Department felt that there was not sufficient time to include any German ports in the itinerary without interfering with the winter exercises of the fleet, which will begin at Guantanamo early in January. Consequently, visits were made only to British and French ports on the English Channel.

Planned for Next Summer.

The proposed cruise to Germany will probably not take place until next summer. The vessels of the Atlantic fleet will mobilize in the English Channel on December 30 and cruise to Guantanamo. On the way there, scouting exercises will be held by the Fifth division of the fleet, under Rear Admiral S. A. Stanton, consisting of the armored cruisers Tennessee, Washington, North Carolina, Montgomery, and scout cruisers Chester, Birmingham, and Salem.

The cruisers will sail from Hampton Roads shortly after January, and will attempt to locate and keep in touch with the battle fleet. The plans for the exercises and maneuvers and target practice for the fleet have been arranged up to early next summer.

OHIO PROVES RICH OIL FIELD.

Standard and Independents Leasing Large Tracts of Land.

Pittsburg, Dec. 22.—The Standard Oil Company is planning to spend millions of dollars in developing new oil and gas fields in Ohio. Between 20,000 to 30,000 acres are under lease by the Standard and independent producers. The territory extends over eleven counties, from Lorain on the north to Hocking County on the south. Oil development has been going on for the last two years in some of the counties, and the indications are that the new field will prove rich.

Oil men have held that there was an arch dividing the Trenton rock and the Clinton sand formations in Ohio, which extended from Sandusky on Lake Erie to Cincinnati, and as the producing formation dips about twenty feet to the mile from the northerly portion of the State, it was considered impractical to search for oil in the counties mentioned.

Some inexperienced farmers at Bremen started drilling two years ago and brought in a good well, showing the folly of the opinions held by oil men. Knowledge of the strike was kept a secret for a while, and other wells were put down and good producers brought in. The Standard stepped in and bought the production of these wells, covered the district with leases, and the independents, led by Roswell D. Crick, of Pittsburg, also are covering the territory with leases.

Quickening the South's Destiny.

From the Atlanta Constitution. Next March Atlanta is to be host to the Southern Commercial Congress, and that body is to have as its distinguished guests President Taft, Col. Roosevelt, Gov.-elect Woodrow Wilson, and probably the British and French Ambassadors, respectively, James Bryce and M. Jusserand. It is an appealing cause that can bring together at one time and in one city a concourse of the most eminent public men in the nation. That cause is nothing less than an organized campaign to quicken the coming of the South's destiny, conducted under the auspices of the confederated business interests of the Southern States.

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FUN IN ENGLAND.

The haughty British statesman went home upon a door. Tin cans were in his whiskers, his face was flecked with gore. His decent British garments were torn and slashed in strips, and words of bitter anger came trembling from his lips: "I left the House of Commons with ladies in pursuit; they jeered and shrieked and hooted, and said I was a brute. I stopped a bit to argue, and show them where they're wrong—I never knew that ladies were so almighty strong! They dumped me in the gutter, they stood me on my head, they ruined all my garments, they sent me home to bed! I hear that sporty people will seek, from place to place, a pugilist of promise to vindicate the race. This modest hunch I'll give them, if they are seeking yet: They ought to put in training the British suffragette." He closed his eyes in anguish when these sad words were said. A brick came through the window, and caught him on the head.

WALT MASON.

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CUBA QUIET AT PRESENT.

No Occasion for Troops Declares State and War Departments.

Officers of the State and War departments yesterday denied the report that a movement was in progress for the military intervention of Cuba because of the alleged unsatisfactory political conditions there. The officers of the State Department regarded the report as a political yarn advanced by persons interested in the politics of the island. The officials of the War Department said that there had been no orders issued to hold troops in readiness to go to Cuba. It was added that there was no reason for intervention at present.

Senor Manuel de Alosladate Rich, editor of Cuba, one of the daily papers of Havana, when seen yesterday refused to discuss the situation. It is believed, however, that Senor Rich recognizes the existence of considerable political unrest in his country, although he does not think that it is more than to be expected in the adjusting of a new government.

Officials at the Cuban Legation refused to give out any statement yesterday.

EDUCATION BOARD

ANSWERS CHARGES

Prepares Reply in Defense of Management.

EXTRAVAGANCE IS DENIED

Ways and Means Committee of Body Completing Answer to President Taft's Charges of Laxity—Oyster Says Large Appropriation Is Necessary for Maintenance of System.

Replying to the charges of extravagance made by President Taft in his message to Congress, the board of education has prepared five reasons to show why more money is needed to support the public schools in Washington.

Not until after Christmas will this reply be officially sent to President Taft, the chairman of the Senate and House District committees, and the Appropriations Committee of the House. It is at present in the hands of the ways and means committee of the board.

Capt. James P. Oyster, president of the board, in preparing the reply, urged that in the public school system in Washington these five dominant factors ought to be considered: The recommendations and criticisms of the schoolhouse commission; the fact that prior to 1873 Congress in no way provided for the public schools; the segregation of the races, which means two separate school systems; the modern tendency to reduce the number of pupils to each teacher, and the fluctuation of Washington's population, which must be met at odd times of the year.

Many Buildings Condemned.

Capt. Oyster pointed out that the schoolhouse commission, in its report, actually condemned twenty-four buildings and recommended their abandonment; recommended new and modern schools in place of Central and Eastern High School buildings, and specifically recommended the appropriation of \$1,650,000 for buildings, fully one-half of which was to replace the condemned buildings.

"This amount alone," said Supt. Stuart last night, "is a great deal, in excess of any amount which the board has ever asked for new schools."

Owing to the race question, the board has to maintain separate schools for whites and blacks, and additional school officers. This necessitates the erection of two small buildings in a single neighborhood, where one larger building would otherwise be sufficient.

Fully one-half of the \$1,650,000 the board estimated for the present fiscal year, says the report, is necessary to carry out the recommendations of the schoolhouse commission.

FASHION HINTS

Black and white striped chiffon-cloth is used for this dressy 'sui' waist. The special feature about it is the one-sided ruffle of velvet, reaching from neck to waist. White chiffon cloth is used for vest and ruffle.

A moving picture camera which will make 2,000 accurate photographs in a second, operating rapidly enough to picture an insect's flight, is a recent invention.

Oil of lavender, sprinkled on the shelves prevents books mildewing.

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Store closes at 6 p. m. Saturday, December 24. Any goods purchased up to 6 p. m. Saturday will be delivered in time for Christmas.

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